

# LAST DAY BUYERS SWELL TOTAL BEYOND LAST YEAR

Merchants Pleased With Volume of Business; Florists Sell Nearly 30,000 Roses; One Postal Delivery Today.

Business houses and downtown streets were filled with hurrying last-minute shoppers today from early morning until the doors were locked at night. Six extra cars on many lines were put on to make street car traffic more comfortable but even with these additions nearly every car was crowded.

**Last Minute Rush.**  
Almost with one accord merchants declared that the holiday trade this year will run heavier than that of last year. Those who did not express this belief said that it could run equally as heavy. The two days of the season have given the Christmas trade new importance when the Christmas weather arrived.

There was one thing at least that last minute shoppers searched frantically for only to search in vain and that was Christmas tree decorations. The title garb colored baubles could not be secured in the department stores where even a few days ago there were seen in such quantities. Only some broken bits and a few unattractive ones to offer these stores were left. The stores were packed and jammed until many people intending to go in for some trifles turned away with empty hands. The stores were packed and jammed until many people intending to go in for some trifles turned away with empty hands.

**30 Thousand Roses Sold.**  
Florists presented a festive scene today. It was estimated by proprietors that more than 30,000 roses were sold. The message of Christmas to all parts of the city within the last three days. Some of the shops refused to take orders for delivery today and could only deliver roses by mail. The florists were busy all day, and tomorrow getting out the orders taken in the last few days. Christmas delivery declared one florist. Today plants were popular but the roses, as always, were the heavy sellers. Most of the roses were completely sold out of roses before noon today.

**Post Office Open Until 10 Today.**  
The post office will be open until 10 o'clock today. The office will be open until 10 o'clock today. The office will be open until 10 o'clock today.

**NO SKATING AT FISHING CLUB TODAY.**  
No skating will be held at the fishing club today. The club will be closed today. The club will be closed today.

**WITH THE SICK.**  
Supervisor L. M. Smith will visit the hospital today. He will visit the hospital today. He will visit the hospital today.

**PHOTOGRAPH FOR TODAY.**  
The photograph for today is a picture of a man. The photograph for today is a picture of a man. The photograph for today is a picture of a man.

**ABE MANLIN.**  
Abe Manlin is a man who is known for his work. Abe Manlin is a man who is known for his work. Abe Manlin is a man who is known for his work.

**CHRISTMAS TREE IN SHERIFF'S HOME.**  
A Christmas tree was set up in the sheriff's home. A Christmas tree was set up in the sheriff's home. A Christmas tree was set up in the sheriff's home.

**BRIEF CITY NEWS.**  
A brief summary of city news. A brief summary of city news. A brief summary of city news.

**COOLIDGE SPENDS TODAY WITH FAMILY.**  
Coolidge spent today with his family. Coolidge spent today with his family. Coolidge spent today with his family.

**FIRE STARTS IN WHISKY STILL.**  
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# 1500 CHILDREN GIVEN TREATS

Alex Van Praag as Santa Claus Presides at Tree in Central Park

A line of children extending along the north, east and south sides of Central park waited for the distribution of a cookie and an orange from Commissioner Van Praag as Santa Claus at the municipal tree, 11 day afternoon. The weather did not deter the children, but they waited patiently in their places, after the "punch and Judy" show on the program which was cut short owing to the weather. Probably 1,500 children received the gift.

**Children Delighted.**  
The brief entertainment delighted children and grown-ups crowded around the stage and the tree in the Central park fountain. Santa Claus was a bit alarmed over the absence of the cookies which were sent out in time to reach the park. The children were lined up as the children were lined up as the children were lined up.

**Have Christmas Party.**  
The Herald carriers association held its annual Christmas party in the carrier room on the third floor of the Herald. The party was a success. The party was a success. The party was a success.

**Shotgun is Fired Into Shop Window.**  
A shotgun was fired into the window of a shop. A shotgun was fired into the window of a shop. A shotgun was fired into the window of a shop.

**MANY EAT GOOSE FOR DINNER TODAY.**  
The demand for geese and ducks was high today. The demand for geese and ducks was high today. The demand for geese and ducks was high today.

**MANY ATTEND CROSS FUNERAL.**  
A large number of people attended the funeral. A large number of people attended the funeral. A large number of people attended the funeral.

**HERALD HOURS TODAY.**  
The Herald business office and circulation department will be open until noon today. The Herald business office and circulation department will be open until noon today.

**PROFIT-SHARING WAGES LOWER.**  
The Herald business office and circulation department will be open until noon today. The Herald business office and circulation department will be open until noon today.

**PEACEFUL SOLUTION OF FIUME QUESTION.**  
A peaceful solution was found for the Fiume question. A peaceful solution was found for the Fiume question. A peaceful solution was found for the Fiume question.

**THUGS STAGE DARING DOWN-TOWN ROBBERY.**  
A group of thugs staged a daring robbery in downtown. A group of thugs staged a daring robbery in downtown. A group of thugs staged a daring robbery in downtown.

**WAGE BOOST FOR BOOK MAKERS.**  
A wage boost was granted for book makers. A wage boost was granted for book makers. A wage boost was granted for book makers.

**NO TOTALS ON SALE OF SEALS.**  
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# Your "Invisible Guest"

An "Invisible Guest" craves a place at your table today; a child whose name you may never know but for whom a parent's heart beats with as warm a love as your's beats for your own little one.

The child is ill clothed, and the pinch of famine shows upon her cheeks. She suffers not with a healthy hunger, but from a lack of nourishment. Blood and tissue cry out for food.

**You can put the flush of health into that child's face and buoyant vitality into those shrunken limbs, if you will.**  
Your sympathy for the child takes the substantial form of a gift during your festivities today.—Macon County Committee on European Relief.

# Real Piano Is To Delight Heart of Mary Causey Today

When Mary Causey, the "sundown" of St. Mary's hospital, opens her big twinkling eyes this morning, they will look straight at the dearest wish of her heart come to life, a piano. Mary is not quite nine years old, but she is a real piano player. She has been playing since she was two and the passages of her throat and stomach were so seriously burned that she never has and probably never will be able to eat except as she is fed through a tube.

**Hidden Away in Basement.**  
Mrs. Stanton interested a few of her friends and together they bought a piano for Mary. The piano was hidden away in the basement and not until Mary was asleep was it taken to her room on the third floor. Since Mary's condition has improved, the piano has been moved to her room. Mary is now able to play the piano.

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# DRUG CO. GIVES \$100 FOR FUND

People of U. S. Save Thousands of Children From Starvation

Employees of the Decatur Drug Co. are responsible for a \$100 check which will go to the European Relief fund from the company. It has been the custom for years for the company to give a New Year's dinner to its employees. This year the employees felt the money might better be spent in aiding starving children.

**Mild and Bread For Little Ones.**  
The total fund now reaches \$117.09. This does not include the money obtained from the sale of the first box of the year. Some stockings failed to come in and it is expected that the schools will turn reports in immediately after school begins again.

**Lighted Candles In Many Windows.**  
An interesting phenomenon of the Christmas eve in Decatur was the appearance of lighted candles in many windows. The candles were lighted in many windows. The candles were lighted in many windows.

**HUNDREDS ENJOY NIGHT SERVICES.**  
Many people attended the night services. Many people attended the night services. Many people attended the night services.

**Mrs. Christine Colee Of Bement Dies Here.**  
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# 55 DAY NURSERY CHILDREN VISITED BY SANTA CLAUS

Loaded With Plenty of Gifts for All; Those Who Are Ill Remembered

Fifty-five children in the Day Nursery were made thoroughly happy today afternoon by a visit from Santa Claus who came loaded down with the week's children were invited into a side room at 4 o'clock when the children were to receive their gifts.

**Boxes of Toys.**  
Besides the stockings there were boxes of toys and other gifts for each child. The children were delighted by the gifts. The children were delighted by the gifts.

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# YOUNG WOMAN COSTUMED AS SANTA BURNED

Mary Nagry in St. Mary's Hospital; Caught From Tree Candles

Miss Mary Nagry, aged 19 years, in St. Mary's hospital painfully if not dangerously burned as the result of a candle in contact with the lighted Christmas tree while she was in the hospital. The candle was lighted in the home of Herman Jordan, 1161 East Orchard street. She was burned about the face and neck and about the body. The candle was lighted in the home of Herman Jordan, 1161 East Orchard street.

**GUEST AT PARTY.**  
Miss Mary Nagry was a guest at a party. Miss Mary Nagry was a guest at a party. Miss Mary Nagry was a guest at a party.

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# BRITISH AND FRENCH PICK CARPENTIER TO WHIP DEMPSEY

## ODDS NOW OFFERED ON FRENCH CHAMP IN ENGLAND AND PARIS

Sportsmen Across the Atlantic Can't See Anything But Handsome Georges in International Heavyweight Battle.

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—"Georges Carpentier should defeat your man Dempsey. There has never been another like Georges. Should Carpentier fail, even to the point of getting knocked out, Dempsey will never be able to really beat him; never crush his spirit."

Here is the English viewpoint of the French champion and the angle from which the average British fight fan looks at a fighter according to Tex O'Rourke, matchmaker of the International Sporting club, who has just returned to this country from a trip abroad, bringing back some of London's best amateur battlers.

"They have a different way of looking at a fighter over there said O'Rourke today. Once a boxer has established himself—got a reputation—he can go on and on no matter how many times he is beaten. Look at Beckett for instance. I'll venture we have ten men or perhaps more in this country who could knock Beckett out but the English still back him. He is the champion and that settles it."

Odds on Carpentier. When Carpentier and Dempsey meet there is going to be a lot of British and French money in the hands of Georges and at odds. Why you can get two to one on Carpentier in France right now and as good as 10 to 7 in England. Perhaps if the fight is staged on the other side of the Atlantic the odds will fluctuate after the English have had a chance to look him over. But now they can't see anything but Carpentier.

After Moran knocked Beckett out one of the members of the National Sporting club asked me if I could arrange to have Bill Brennan or some other good heavyweight come across to fight before his club. He even suggested Dempsey and wanted to stage Beckett on the other end of the mat.

## SAVAGE SAYS UNKIND WORDS

Former Fighter Rises to Remark That Boxers Go Cookoo In Time

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Jim Savage says that after a man has taken wallop on the button over a term of years he is only fit for a job with a hammer and a nail. The Battling Kangaroo according to Savage, is a rational animal compared to the average of fighters. He knows an old-timer down in Wall Street who is a messenger for a firm of brokers. "I've seen him lay down a bundle of Liberty Bonds on the curb," says Jim, "and square away at an incoming opponent for a time."

## FEW CHANGES IN INDIAN LINEUP

CLEVELAND, Dec. 24.—The Cleveland American League team winners will probably start the 1921 season with a substantially the same lineup as they wound up the 1920 season. James C. Dunn, president of the club is satisfied with the team as it is and will stand pat on the lineup for next year's campaign without looking for a single addition to his regulars or subtraction.

## STANLEY EVERETT SPRINGS NEW ONE

CHICAGO, Dec. 24.—Stanley Everett, who suffered from a severe cold and flu during the season, has been declared fit to play again. He will start in the lineup for the White Sox in the first game of the season.

## BABE RUTH WANTS BAT FOR CHRISTMAS

NEW YORK, Dec. 24.—Babe Ruth, who returned to New York tonight from Cuba, asked what he wanted most for Christmas. "A bat," said the slugger, "and a new pair of shoes. I've worn out my old ones."

## COAST PLAYERS ARE RELEASED

Magert, Borton, Rumer Cleared of Indictments Charging Game Fixing

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 21.—William H. McCarthy, San Francisco retired president of the Coast Baseball League, said today professional baseball players should bat from the ranks. W. Baker, (Babe) Borton, and Magert, and William Rumer, players who were cleared of indictments charging them with the alleged "fixing" of games in Los Angeles today. Even if these players may not be punished criminally, Rumer and Magert stand indicted and convicted in the eyes of the baseball public. McCarthy said. It remains for baseball to do its share and to at least keep them from participating in professional ranks.

## PIG DOES SERVICE OF HUNTING DOG

ANTHONY MISS, Dec. 21.—Tucker Gibson, known as the champion pig game hunter of Leucase Parish, La., claims he owns a pig which he uses in the capacity of a blind dog, and asserts the pig makes perfect stands and never flushes a covey of birds. Mr. Gibson said that soon after the birth of the pig on the death of its mother, it was adopted by a pointer dog with a litter of pups and that the dog continued to associate with its foster brothers and after it became well known. He declared that the hunting proclivities of the pig were recently discovered the first time the young dogs were taken to the field the pig accompanying the party and taking animated part in the hunt.

## MARANVILLE DEAL RUMOR FAILS TO DISTURB BRAVES



Rabbit Maranville.

George Grant, president of the Boston Braves, isn't worrying because the Hub newspapers persist in trading Rabbit Maranville, his star shortstop, to the Pittsburgh Pirates. He said he won't worry till the time for signing contracts draws nigh. He admits that the Braves will have a great staff of pitchers next season.

## "THE CRAB" RETURNS AND CHICAGO FANS ARE GLAD



BY NORMAN E. BROWN. LIVERS—meaning baseball fans in general—call John J. Livers "The Crab." The umpires call him worse. The managers say he is a temperamental—only they use more rough language. And then, right on top of these choice epithets, slurs and derogatory remarks the whole pack and rabble admit that he is "One of the brainiest men in baseball."

## STARS MAY PLAY IN FLORIDA LEAGUE

TAMPA, Fla., Dec. 21.—Suggestions that Blue Ruth, Ty Cobb, Tris Speaker and other major baseball stars be obtained for baseball clubs of the Florida West Coast winter baseball league were said today to be under consideration by Rube Allen, the league secretary.

## PAUL PREHN BEATS BYLUND

CHARLES CITY, Iowa, Dec. 24.—Paul Prehn, University of Illinois wrestling coach, defeated Bobby Bylund of Moline, Ill., middle-weight, in straight falls here last night. Prehn on the first fall in thirty five minutes with a reverse arm scissors and the second in the thirty two minutes with his leg-split hold.

## OHIO STATE GRID TEAM ARRIVES IN PASADENA

Western Conference Champions in Good Shape and Take First Practise on New Year's Battle Ground—Players Stand Long Trip Well

PASADENA, Cal., Dec. 24.—The Ohio State football team, which won the Western Conference championship, arrived in Pasadena today for its first practice on the new year's battle ground. The team, which defeated Oregon last week, is in good shape and the players stand the long trip well. The team is expected to play the first game of the season on New Year's day.

Best Wishes for

A Merry Christmas and

A Bright and Prosperous New Year

Decatur Automobile Co.

Decatur, Ill.

Greetings

At this holiday season we like to think of our customers as our friends. We like to feel that in a broad sense our customers are our partners—that our success is but a reflection of their success.

Our biggest asset is your good will, and we sincerely value the business you have given us.

May Your Christmas Be Merry.

Morehouse & Wells Co.

HARDWARE

Backward, turn backward  
Oh, Time in thy flight  
And make me a child again  
Just for tonight!

—Elizabeth Akers Allen

YOU can smile about it now. But it was a tragedy then. No fun at all to wait for second table—to hear the folks praising the tenderness of the turkey and the goodness of the cranberries. Not pleasant at all to stand with an "aching void," wondering if there would be anything left. But, oh, the enjoyment when your chance finally came. Every meal was a treat in those days! Remember the wonderful bread and butter? May today call back the memory of those days.

We are wishing you a real old fashioned Merry Christmas with the kindest appreciation of the generous patronage extended to us during the past year.

HOLSUM BREAD

CONKLINS BAKERY COMPANY

KLEEN MAID BREAD



WASHINGTON, March 12.—James W. Boeing of Chicago had been appointed advertising manager of the National Newspaper Emergency Fleet corporation in New York, it was announced today.



